

REMARKS**I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-5, 9, 10, 12-29, 32-41, 46-50, and 52-64 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 20, 32, 46, and 47 have been amended. Claims 61-64 have been added.

II. Claim Objections

Claims 20 and 47 were objected to because of grammatical errors. Claims 20 and 47 have been amended accordingly.

III. Claim Rejection - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-5, 9, 10, 12-29, 32, 33, 35-41, 46-50, and 52-60 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,263,507 (Ahmad). Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 20, 32, and 46 and respectfully traverse the rejection.

In an example of embodiments of the invention, a technique is provided for accessing information segments, such as news video clips, from a remote database. Summaries of news video clips are displayed to a user on a communications device (such as a personal computer, TV, media player, etc.). The user selects one or more of the news clips that the user wishes to view by selecting the corresponding news summaries on the display. Each time the user selects a news summary, a corresponding indicator appears in a separate box in the display, referred to as a "video cart." Thus, a "playlist" of indicators is compiled in the video cart, with each new indicator appearing at the end of the list. After selecting all of the news video clips that the user wishes to view, the user can rearrange the indicators in the playlist into a desired order. The user can change the position of a selected indicator by "dragging" an indicator appearing at the end of the playlist and "dropping" it at front of the list, for example. If the user then chooses to "play" the playlist, the selected news video clips are presented to the user in the order in which their corresponding indicators appear in the list. *See* page 13, line 13 *et seq.* of the specification.

Amended Independent Claims 1 and 46

Method claim 1 requires “storing a plurality of information segments in the database.” Claim 1 has been amended to require “displaying at least a portion of one or more of the information segments,” and “allowing the user to select information segments from among the one or more displayed information segments.” Claim 1 has been further amended to require “storing, in a sequence in a buffer, indicators representing respective information segments selected by a user.” Claim 46 is a system claim having features similar to claim 1, and has been amended in a similar manner.

Ahmad discloses a method of reviewing audio, video, text data, or a combination thereof, enabling data to be quickly reviewed to obtain an overview of the content of the body of information (Abstract). Information segments are obtained by searching a database (referred to as a primary information source). The resulting information segments are displayed to the user on a display device.

Nowhere does Ahmad teach or suggest displaying information segments, allowing the user to select information segments from among the displayed information segments, and storing indicators representing the user-selected information segments in a sequence in a buffer, as claimed. Although, as the Examiner points out, Ahmad discloses displaying “thumbnails” representing information segments, the method disclosed in Ahmad of using these thumbnails fails to teach or suggest the claimed combination. If the thumbnails are interpreted to be the claimed “information segments,” then Ahmad fails to teach or suggest “storing, in a sequence in a buffer, indicators representing respective information segments selected by a user.” According to Ahmad, the thumbnails are selected and played one at a time by the user. When a user selects a respective thumbnail, the corresponding information segment is simply played on a display device. No “indicator” representing the selected thumbnail is created or stored in a sequence in a buffer, as required by amended claim 1.

If, on the other hand, the thumbnails are interpreted to be the claimed “indicators,” then Ahmad fails to teach or suggest “allowing the user to select information segments from among the one or more displayed information segments,” and storing in a buffer indicators corresponding to those selected information segments, as required by amended claim 1. The

information segments corresponding to these thumbnails are selected not by the user from among displayed information segments, but rather from the primary information source, the contents of which are not on display for the user. The “thumbnails” are displayed only after being retrieved in response to a search of a database (col. 15, lines 43-50). There is no teaching or suggestion in Ahmad to display a respective “thumbnail” prior to conducting the search.

None of the other cited art teaches or suggests these features, either. Accordingly, amended claim 1, together with its dependent claims (2-4, 9-10, 12-19), and amended claim 46, together with its dependent claims (47-50, 52-60), are patentable over Ahmad. The dependent claims also have patentable features.

Amended Independent Claims 20 and 32

Independent method claim 20, which requires “providing a buffer,” has been amended to require “receiving from the user selections of information segments in the database, the user selected information segments being represented by respective indicators,” and “storing, in a sequence in the buffer, the indicators corresponding to the user selected information segments.” Claim 20 has been further amended to require “allowing the user to select an indicator in the sequence and change the position of the selected indicator with respect to the other indicators in the sequence,” and “presenting the user selected information segments represented by the respective indicators in the sequence in the same order as the respective indicators in the sequence.”

Claim 32 has been similarly amended to require “allowing the user to select the indicator and change the position of the indicator with respect to the second indicator in the sequence, to generate a selected order of the indicators.”

Nowhere does Ahmad teach or suggest allowing a user to (1) select an indicator in a sequence of stored indicators and (2) change the position of the indicator with respect to other indicators in the sequence, as required by amended claims 20 and 32. At best, Ahmad discloses allowing a user to sort information segments retrieved from the primary information source based on a correlation of the primary information segments with segments from a secondary information source (col. 23, lines 9-15). Such a sorting operation may be performed according to

pre-selected parameters, such as by subject matter (col. 23, lines 9-15). However, such sorting in no way constitutes "selecting an indicator" in a sequence of stored indicators and changing the position of the selected indicator with respect to the other indicators. None of the other cited art teaches or suggests these features, either. Accordingly, amended claim 20, together with its dependent claims (21-29), and amended claim 32, together with its dependent claims (33-41), are patentable over Ahmad. The dependent claims also have patentable features.

IV. Claim Rejection - 35 USC § 103

Claim 34 was rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Ahmad and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,020,883 (Herz).

Claim 34 depends from amended claim 32. For reasons set forth above, amended claim 32 is patentable over the cited art. Therefore, claim 34 is also patentable over the cited art. Dependent claim 34 also includes patentable limitations.

V. New Claims 61-64

New claims 61 and 64 depend from amended claims 1 and 46, respectively, and recite a limitation that was removed from claims 1 and 46, respectively, as a result of the amendment. For the reasons set forth above, amended claims 1 and 46 are patentable over the cited art. Therefore, new claims 61 and 64 are also patentable over the cited art.

New claims 62 and 63 depend from amended claim 1 and 20, respectively. Both new claims 62 and 63 require the automatic presentation of information segments represented by the indicators in the buffer. For the reasons set forth above, amended claims 1 and 20 are patentable over the cited art. Therefore, new claims 62 and 63 are also patentable over the cited art.

Dependent claims 61-64 also include patentable limitations.

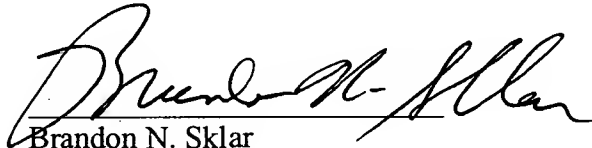
VI. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, each of claims 1-5, 9, 10, 12-29, 32-41, 46-50 and 52-64, as amended, is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of these claims is requested and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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